

AMENDMENTS

In the Specification:

Please replace the Abstract with the following:

ABSTRACT

Oscillometry or another method is employed to initially determine a mean blood pressure and a diastolic blood pressure. There is a similarity between an intra-arterial pressure waveform exactly representing blood pressure and a pulse wave form generated when a cuff occludes a site to be measured. This similarity is utilized to obtain blood pressure. More specifically, the cuff occludes a site to be measured, while a pulse wave is detected. From the detected pulse wave's maximum amplitude an estimated mean arterial pressure is obtained. The obtained estimated mean arterial pressure and the pulse wave's minimum value are regarded as a mean blood pressure and a diastolic blood pressure, respectively. From the pulse wave's maximum value a systolic blood pressure is obtained by an arithmetic operation.